

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (withdrawn)..

Claim 2 (withdrawn).

Claim 3 (withdrawn).

Claim 4 (withdrawn).

Claim 5 (currently amended). A filter media comprising hydroentangled, predominantly polyester staple length fibers having a basis weight of no more than about 12 oz/yd², a Mullen burst strength of at least about 395 psi, and machine-direction and cross-direction shrinkage of less than about 3% at 350° F, said filter media being heat-treated by one of heat-fusing and heat-setting, and exhibiting a strip tensile of at least about 12.2 lb/in per ounce/yard² of basis weight, and a cross-direction strip tensile of at least about 8.5 lb/in per ounce/yard² of basis weight.

Claim 6 (original). A filter media in accordance with claim 4, wherein said media exhibits machine-direction and cross-direction shrinkage of less than about 2%.

Claim 7 (canceled).

Claim 8 (currently amended). A filter media in accordance with claim 4 5, wherein said filter media is a gas filter.

Claim 9 (currently amended). A filter media in accordance with claim 4 5, wherein said filter media is an air filter.

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Claim 10 (currently amended). A filter media in accordance with claim 4 5,
wherein said filter media is a liquid filter.